

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01 EB-11 /144 W

----- 056112

R 121020Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2530

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0205

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, AO

SUBJECT: RECENT MILITARY ACTIVITY IN NORTH

REF: A. KINSHASA 3146; B. LUANDA 197

1. SOURCE OF PROVEN RELIABILITY IN PORTUGUESE HIGH COMMAND DENIES STORY OF ALLEGED ELNA SUCCESS (REFTEL A). NOTHING HAS HAPPENED NEAR TOMBOCO IN "A LONG TIME" AND NOTHING OF SIGNIFICANCE HAPPENED IN NORTHERN ANGOLA IN EARLY APRIL. PORTUGUESE ARMY HAS NO FORD TRUCKS. BASIS FOR STORY MAY BE AMBUSH OF PORTUGUESE SUPPLY TRUCK MID-MARCH AT A POINT ABOUT 100 KM NORTHEAST OF TOMBOCO THAT RESULTED IN 3 OR 4 PORTUGUESE KIA.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY PUT BY CONGEN OFFICER ON RUMOR IN LUANDA THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN EXCHANGE OF FIRE NEAR OILFIELD IN SOUTHERN CABINDA ON WEEKEND OF APRIL 6-7 OR, ALTERNATELY, ANOTHER AMBUSH ALONG ZAIRE BORDER IN NORTHERN CABINDA AT SAME TIME, HE STATED THAT ONLY RECENT ACTION IN CABINDA WAS ROCKETING AND AMBUSHES ON MARCH 26-28 (REFTEL B). HE ADDED THAT REPORT OF THREE PORTUGUESE SOLDIERS BEING CAPTURED IN THOSE ENGAGEMENTS WAS INACCURATE. ONLY ONE MAN WAS CAPTURED. PORTUGUESE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES WITHIN MPLA (SIC) HAVE REPORTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE RETURNING MPLA AMBUSH TEAM BROUGHT BACK NO PRISONERS, SO PRES-
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UMABLY PRISONER WAS KILLED. COMMAND SEARCHES OF AMBUSH SITES

HAVE NOT TURNED UP THE MISSING BODY.
BRIGGS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, KIA, COMBAT OPERATIONS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, PRISONERS
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Draft Date: 12 APR 1974
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